

Act (5 U.S.C. 601 *et seq.*), we need not conduct at this point an examination of impacts on small business. However, we welcome any comments regarding small entity considerations embodied in that Act.

Environmental and Energy Considerations

Issuing this notice will not significantly affect either the quality of the human environment or the conservation of energy resources because the notice merely seeks information and is not proposing any change in current rules or policy. We preliminarily conclude that, even if we subsequently decide to grant the relief sought by petitioners, an environmental assessment would not be necessary under our regulations because the proposed action would not result in changes in carrier operations that exceed the thresholds established in our regulations. See 49 CFR 1105.6(c)(2). We invite comments on the environmental and energy impacts of the proposal.

Authority: 49 U.S.C. 10321 and 10526, and 5 U.S.C. 553.

Decided: December 16, 1994.

By the Commission, Chairman McDonald, Vice Chairman Morgan, and Commissioners Simmons and Owen.

Vernon A. Williams,
Secretary.

[FR Doc. 95-317 Filed 1-5-95; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 17

Endangered and Threatened Wildlife and Plants; Reopening of Comment Period and Public Hearings on Proposed Rule to List the Arkansas River Basin Population of the Arkansas River Shiner as Endangered

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Proposed rule; notice of public hearings and reopening of comment period.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) gives notice that three public hearings will be held on its proposal to list the Arkansas River Basin population of the Arkansas River shiner (*Notropis girardi*) as an endangered species. The Service proposed endangered status pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*), for the Arkansas River Basin population of the Arkansas River

shiner on August 3, 1994 (59 FR 39532). These hearings will allow additional comments on this proposal to be submitted from all interested parties.

DATES: The comment period on the proposal is reopened from January 6 through February 3, 1995. The public hearings will be held from 7 to 9:30 p.m. on January 23, 1995, in Meade, Kansas; from 7 to 9:30 p.m. on January 24, 1995, in Woodward, Oklahoma; and from 7 to 9:30 p.m. on January 25, 1995, in Amarillo, Texas.

ADDRESSES: The January 23rd hearing will be held in the auditorium of Meade High School, 407 School Addition, Meade, Kansas; the January 24th hearing will be held in the seminar room of the High Plains Institute of Technology, 3921 34th Street, Woodward, Oklahoma; and the January 25th hearing will be held in the auditorium of the Texas A&M Regional Research and Extension Center, 6500 Amarillo Boulevard West, Amarillo, Texas. Written comments and materials should be sent to State Supervisor, Ecological Services State Office, 222 South Houston, Suite A, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74127. Comments and materials received will be available for public inspection, by appointment, during normal business hours at the above office address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ken Collins at the above office address (918/581-7458).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Background

Section 4(b)(5)(E) of the Act requires that a public hearing be held on the proposal to list the Arkansas River Basin population of the Arkansas River shiner as an endangered species, if requested within 45 days of the proposal's publication in the **Federal Register**. Public hearing requests were received during the allotted time period from parties in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Anyone expecting to make an oral presentation at these hearings is encouraged to provide a written copy of their statement to the hearing officer prior to the start of the hearing. In the event there is a large attendance, the time allotted for oral statements may have to be limited. Oral and written statements receive equal consideration. There are no limits to the length of written comments presented at these hearings or mailed to the Service.

In order to accommodate the presently scheduled public hearings, the Service extends the public comment period. Written comments may be submitted from January 6, 1995 through February 3, 1995, to the State Supervisor (see **ADDRESSES** above).

Author

The primary author of this document is Ken Collins (see **ADDRESSES** above).

Authority

The authority for this action is the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*)

Dated: December 23, 1994.

John G. Rogers,

Regional Director, Fish and Wildlife Service.

[FR Doc. 95-305 Filed 1-5-95; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 122294A]

50 CFR Part 227

Listing Endangered and Threatened Species; Shortnose Sturgeon in the Kennebec River System (Maine)

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of petition finding, initiation of status review; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS finds that a petition to remove the shortnose sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*) population in the Kennebec River system (Androscoggin, Kennebec and Sheepscot Rivers) from the Endangered Species List presents substantial information indicating that the requested action may be warranted. Therefore, NMFS is initiating a status review on the stock to determine if delisting is warranted. To ensure that this status review is complete, NMFS is soliciting information and data regarding the petitioned stock of shortnose sturgeon.

DATES: Comments and information must be received by March 7, 1995.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the petition are available from, and information should be submitted to, Chief, Habitat and Protected Resources Division, NMFS, One Blackburn Drive, Gloucester, MA 01930-2298.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Nancy Haley, NMFS, Northeast Region (413-253-8616); Douglas W. Beach, NMFS, Northeast Region (508-281-9254); or Margaret Lorenz, NMFS, Office of Protected Resources (301-713-1401).